

Pending Applications for Notary Public

3200. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for notary public still pending for approval;

(b) whether Government have set up a cell to dispose of these applications within a time-bound programme;

(c) if so, the reasons for delay in disposal of these applications; and

(d) the time by when these applications are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) The number of applications for notary public still pending for consideration is 1,350.

(b) A Separate Notary Cell has been set up to expeditiously dispose of applications for appointment of notaries.

(c) and (d) Appointment of a notary is a statutory appointment which is done under the Notaries Act and the rules made thereunder, which prescribe detailed procedure to be followed for appointment of a notary. Since appointment of a notary involves taking of various steps including obtaining the views of the concerned State Bar Councils, which takes considerable time, it is not possible to fix any definite time-frame for disposal of applications. Recently, a large number of applications have been received, due to which pendency of applications has increased.

Use of information technology in courts

3201. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to use information technology in courts to speed up disposal of cases; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?